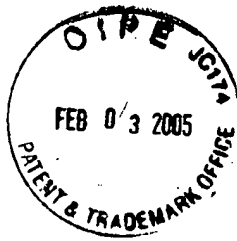


Patent



Docket No. 1232-5147

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Takeshi MIYACHI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2851

Serial No.: 10/661,870

Examiner: H. NGUYEN

Filed: September 11, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RETAINING MIRROR, AND MIRROR  
EXCHANGED METHOD

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop:  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement mailed on January 19, 2005, in the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully submit the following response. This response is timely filed.

The Restriction/Election Requirement requires Applicants to elect one of the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to a mirror retainer and corresponding method; or
- II. Claims 10-15, drawn to an exposure apparatus and a corresponding device fabrication method.

In response, Applicants provisionally elect to pursue prosecution of Group II, which includes claims 10-15. This election is made with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that: (1) all groups of claims are properly presented in the same application; (2) undue diverse searching should not be required; and (3) all claims should be examined together. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction/election requirement should be withdrawn and an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully solicited.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application based on the non-elected claims.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4157. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: February 3, 2005

By: 

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